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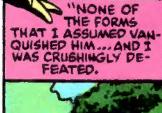




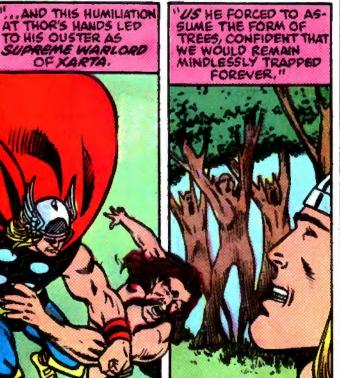




































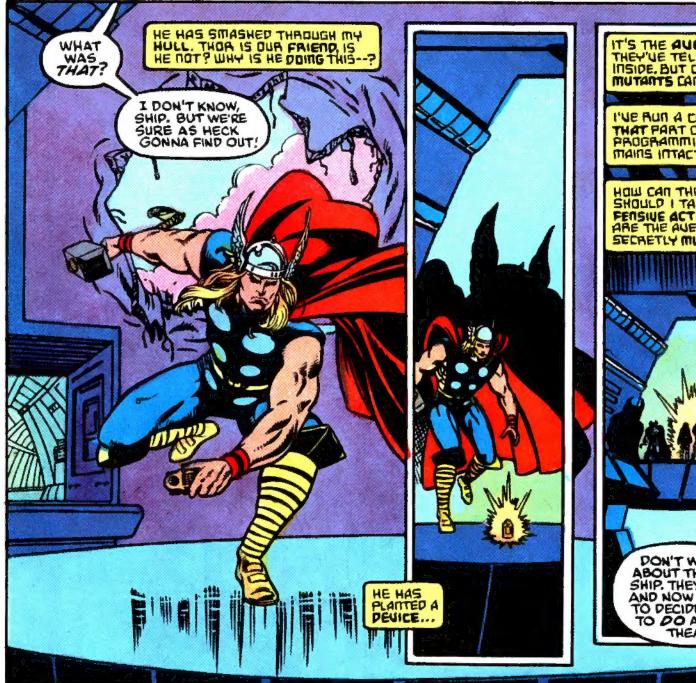




















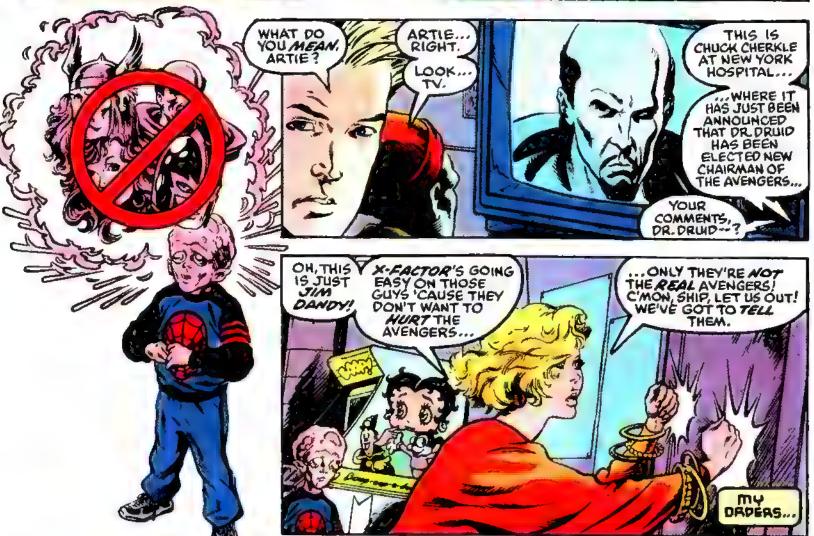
















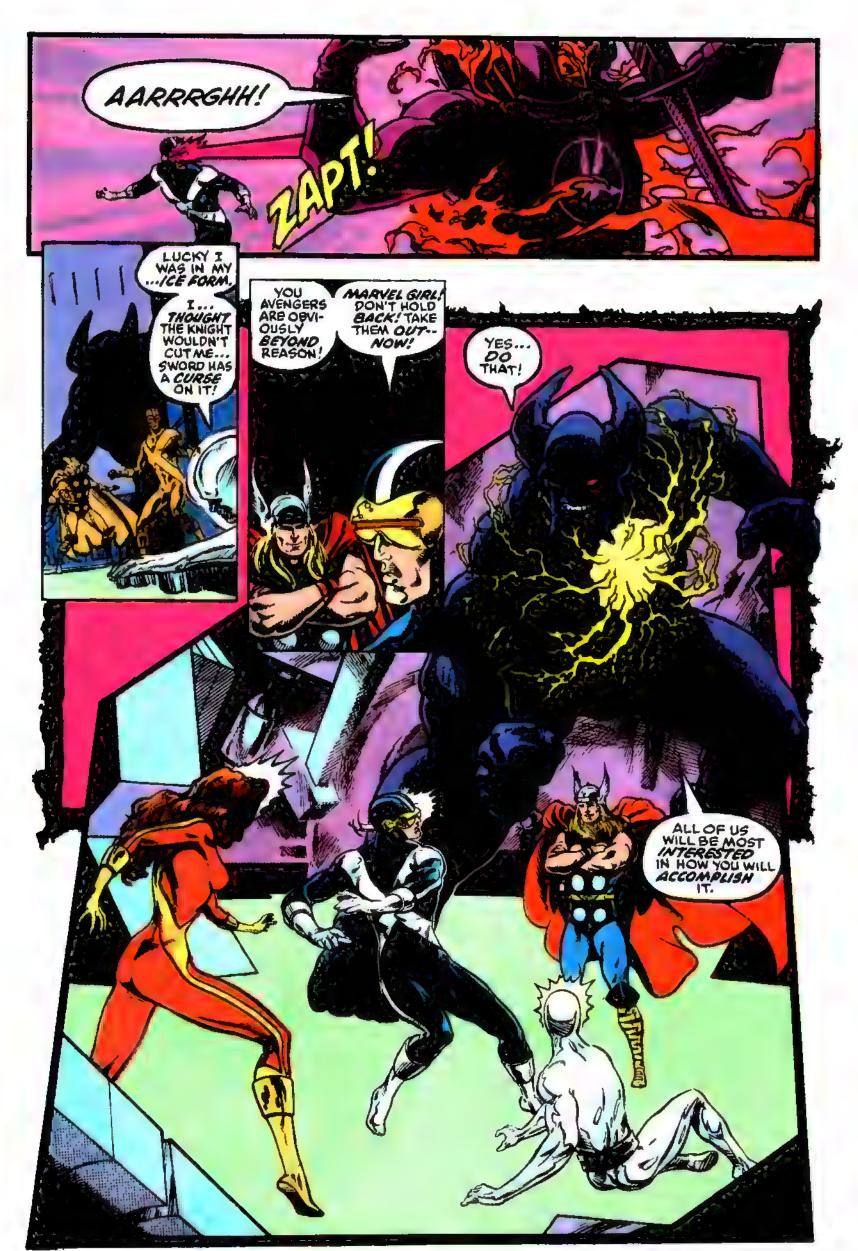






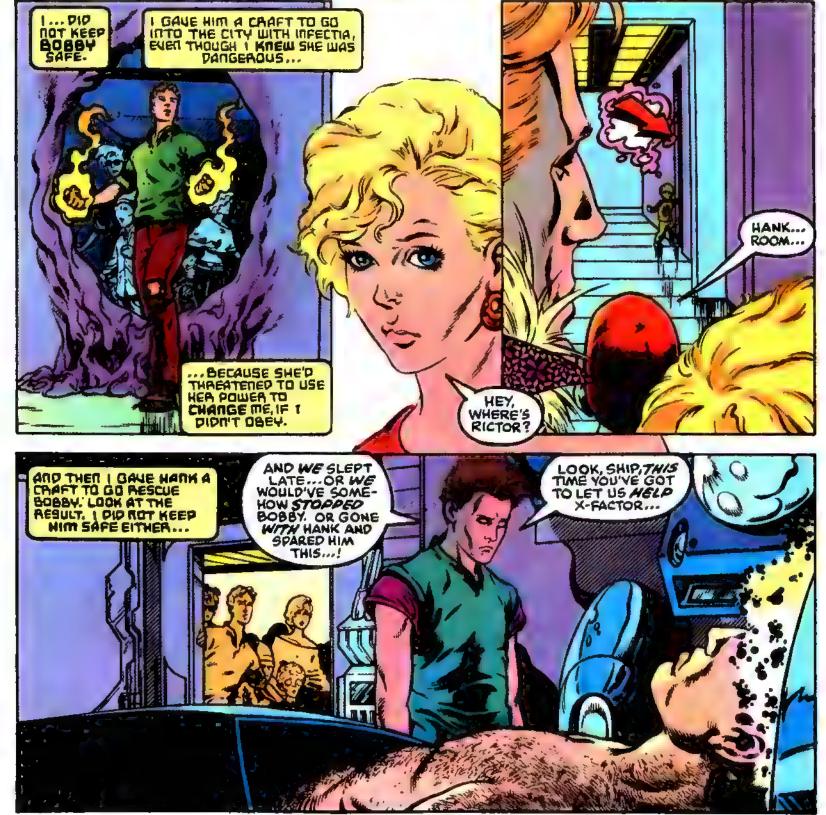




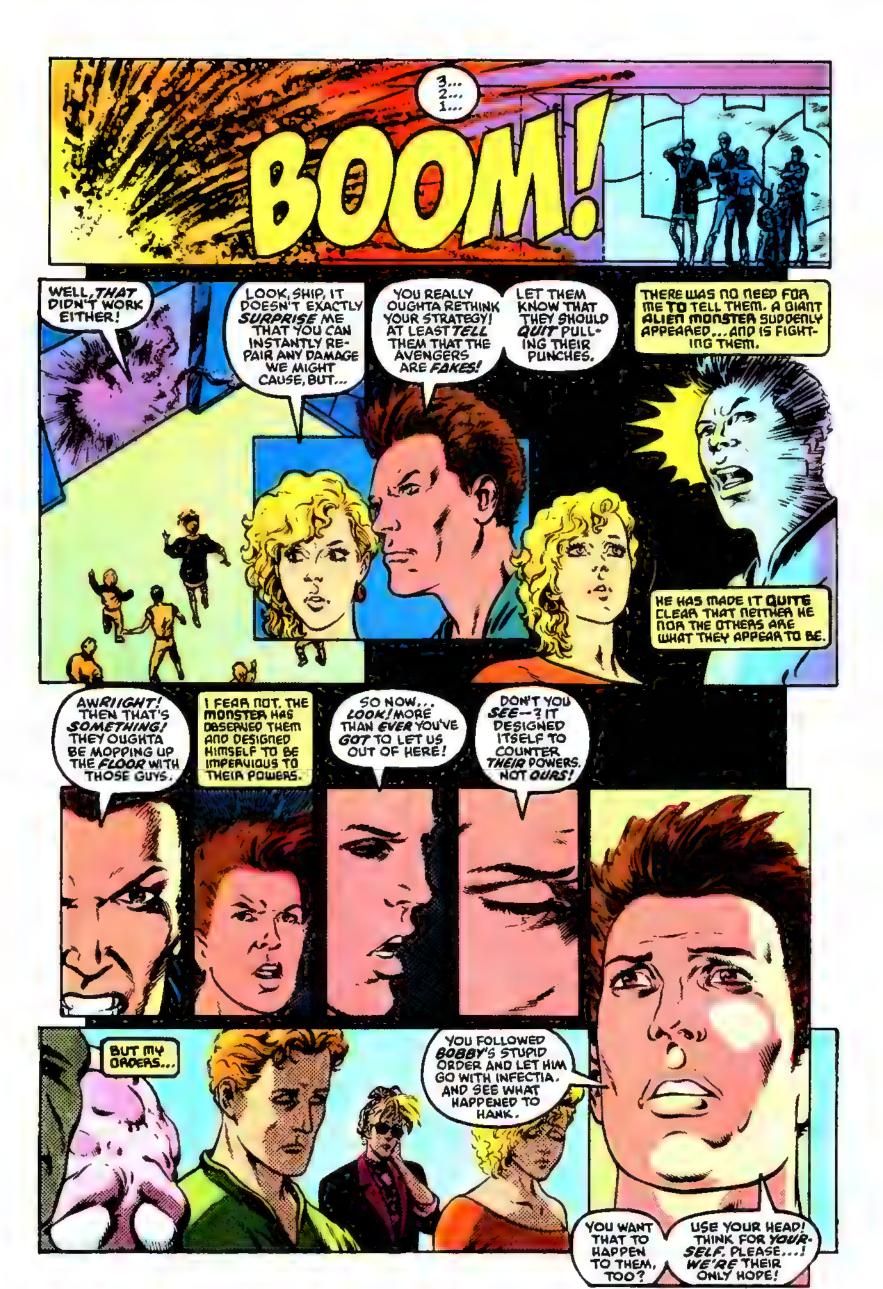


























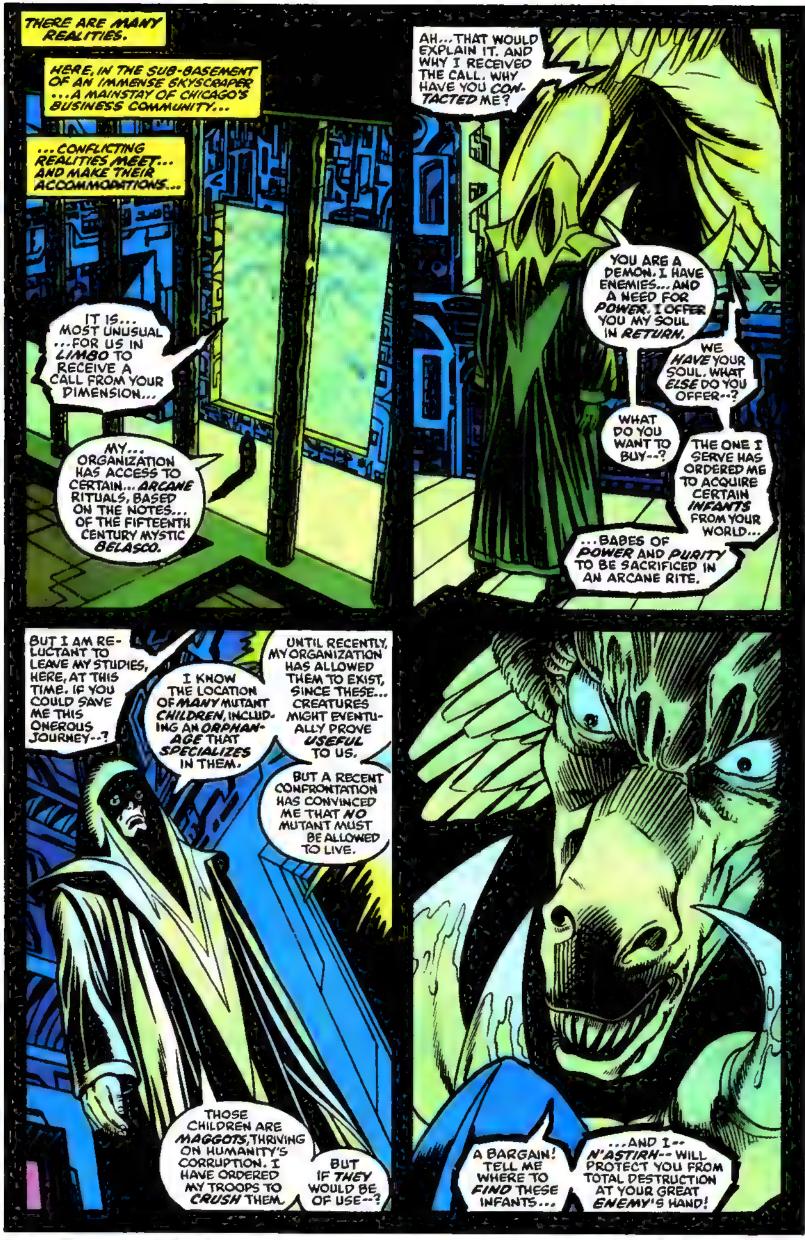




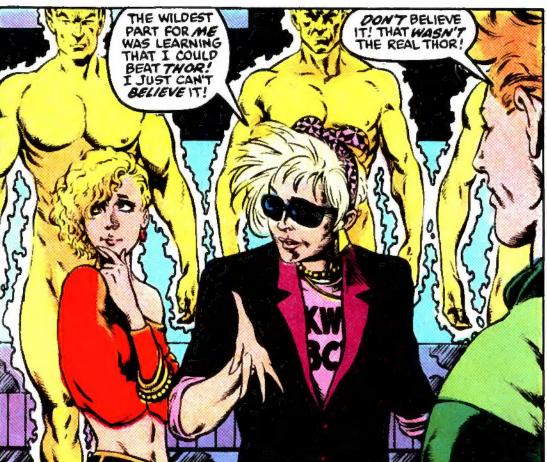




















I love what you guys (and gals) have done with X-FACTOR. The Fall of the Mutants is the best thing to happen to X-FACTOR yet. I especially enjoy what you have done to Warren, I mean Angel, I mean Death, I mean ... whatever. As the Angel, I always wondered what he could possibly add to the team with just a pair of fancy wings. Now he's just as much an addition to this book as anyone else, and I can't wait to see what will become of him. Please don't waste this character by leaving

Dear Bob,

him out of the book.

Cyclops learning that his son is still alive was something that I had been waiting for. Iceman is great, but I wish you would take that power damper thing off his waist. It looks like the heavyweight boxing championship belt. The Beast is great too, but please don't make him too dumb. X-FACTOR doesn't need an Incredible Hulk. (I'm talking about the dumb green Hulk.)

I am greatly looking forward to "Inferno." I can't wait to see X-Factor's reaction to seeing the X-Men alive, and the battle that is supposed to follow. I am especially looking forward to seeing Wolverine's reaction to seeing Jean Grey for the first time since her "death." Even though Wolverine is my favorite character in the entire galaxy, please don't have him going hyper over seeing Jean. I'd rather see him marry Marlko. Besides," Cyclops and Marvel Girl deserve each other.

Well, I guess I've babbled long enough, so until Cyclops trades in his ruby-quartz shades for a pair of Amber-Vision glasses, Make Mine Marvel.

> John Fischbach 10812 Woody Dr. Knoxville, TN 37922

Wolvie not go hyper over seeing Jean again? Knowing ol' Logan we wouldn't bet on that...not by a long shot, John. Dear X-People,

You can tell when people enjoy working on a title. It certainly shows in your work on X-FACTOR. I really liked the introduction of Infectia in issue #29. There is no doubt that Infectia could be a very deadly villain, but you have given her an aura that is less than forbidding. It seems as if you have decided to take a light-hearted approach to your stories in X-FACTOR.

I would like to see more of Boom-Boom, Caliban and the other kids. I also hope that we can clear up the situation between Scott and Jean. I find the entire situation just a little confusing. Let's see, Scott's wife isn't really dead but everyone thinks she is, Scott's son by Madelyne is out there somewhere, and Scott and Jean have a daughter that they don't know about yet because she isn't born yet, except that she has been hanging out with the X-Men. Oh yes, one more thing: for all we know Jean, Madelyne and the Dark Phoenix could all be the same person. See what I mean? It gets a bit confusing. I think it has gone on long enough how about a few answers?

Charles Novinskie P.O. Box 1223 Grand Junction, CO 81502

Attention correspondents: if you don't want your full address printed, please be sure to tell us sor and gals) and gals. The Fall thing to be specially n, I mean whatever. In the and we've got a funny feeling that's all about the heroes in action and to familiarize readers with their powers. From

Dear Bob.

Whilst X-Factor may have indeed gained "Fame" (X-FACTOR #29) in an ironic contrast to the role the X-Men were always fated to play, the important issues for the group now lie beyond their media image and beyond the battles that inevitably come their way. In the same way the X-Men used to be, this is a group built around its leader, Cyclops. And Scott Summers is a man torn apart. The triangle involving him, Maddie and Jean (which, I know you won't like my saying, was created by Jean's unnecessary return from death) has never been properly gone into by the writers and now that Maddie has seemingly died, Scott's guilt is, not surprisingly, more and more unbearable. As a result, his relationship with Jean is near the breaking point, and as she's the only person he can confide in anyway, he has no one to turn to (not even his brother). His son remains missing and he seems unwilling to try to find him, which I find most out of character and indicative of a mental breakdown.

Jean, on the other hand, is playing the manipulative witch, again out of character—maybe she is another Mastermind construct after all? Why is she trying to taunt him about Maddle? I suppose it's a perfectly human response to her feeling betrayed by Scott when she was thought dead, but she must realize it's not exactly helping the situation, and will not leave him likely to stay with her. Sooner or later, Scott will discover the X-Men are alive, and then he will have to take back his duties as husband and father, which he used to do so well.

Meanwhile, Iceman is becoming more and more immature, maybe to make up for the Beast's sad decline, which someone (maybe Reed Richards) needs to do something about. The Angel is probably lost forever. Dire straits, indeed.

I've followed these characters for more than half their 25 years of existence and i care about them very much. The Scott/Jean/Maddie thing is especially galling to watch. If it's all human nature, then let it at least take its course to some sort of resolution, however difficult it may be to document. Otherwise this conflict will do more damage than Apocalypse and company ever could.

Malcolm Bourne 87 Greenfield Gardens Cricklewood, London NW2 1HU England

You're more right than you know, Maicolm.

Dear Bob,

If a formula were to be mapped out for a solid, self-contained comic story, X-FAC-TOR #29 would serve as an ideal model. It begins by introducing the antagonist, Infectia and gives her just enough space to tease the reader before moving to

the heroes. They're confronted by the secondary antagonists, the reporters and the public (a constant thorn in the sides of our merry mutants). By acceptable coincidence, a crisis arises; good opportunity to showcase the heroes in action and to familiarize new readers with their powers. From there, downshift to development of the antagonist along with characterization and insights into the heroes. Plot threads dangling, the major conflict arrives. Very good fight scenes. Both X-Factor/Anti-Bodies and the Beast/Dark Horse brawls kept me on the edge of my seat. And then the climax: X-Factor wins, Beast loses, main antagonist gets away to fight another day. It's perfect. This is the sort of storytelling that yanked comics out of the (dark) Golden Age and into the respectable period we're in now.

Of course, there is more to "Fame" than formula. Infectia has the potential to become one of the worst/best menaces the mutants have ever faced, because she can create legions of Anti-Bodies to do her dirty work. As far as the heroes are concerned, Cyclops is acting like a jerk. He may be a competent leader, but how he has any friends is beyond me. Iceman is a good "baby of the bunch." His flamboyant, often cocky behavior adds to the team and the mag as a whole. The Beast is stupid, please return him to his old intelligent self. Angel/Death is intriguing. Issue #28 was my first X-Factor comic in over two years so the character of Angel/ Death is foreign to me, but I'm looking forward to seeing a lot more of him. And Marvel Girl is great. She gave the best performance, both in word and in deed.

In a sense, X-FACTOR #29 had it all. All the characterization, the action and the great art that keeps me reading Marvel. I don't mean to just toss X-FACTOR in with all the other comics out there — it's at the top of the heap at this point. It's one of the better mags, setting the pace instead of keeping it. I hope the high quality continues.

John Yancura Fresno, CA

Dear Guys,

I cannot believe that Jean Grey can be as insensitive to Maddie Pryor as she was in issue #29. Remember, it was Scott who abandoned Maddie and their newborn son. Maddie probably assumed their relationship was over, so why should she seek the help of a man who deserted her? Her appeal to Scott is Dallas before she "died" was directed to Scott because he is the baby's father. Maddie did not even know Scott had tried to find her when she was attacked by the Marauders.

Jean is being especially cruel and unreasonable in this issue. Iceman seemed overly flippant this time around, too. Did Mrs. Simonson misplace her "character personality" key on her typewriter this month?

Anyway, Scott doesn't deserve a lady like Maddie Pryor. The only real reason he married her in the first place was because she reminded him so much of Jean. A reprehensible act, and Jean just twisted the knife. Maddie was hardly off "adventuring" with the

X-Men, but rather running for her life. Better luck next time, folks.

Alan Michael 1241 Glorieta St. Albuquerque, NM 87112

Whoa! Jean's little temper tantrum seems to have upset more than a few people. To wit . . .

Dear Bob,

Issue #29 is definitely the last issue of X-FACTOR that I'll ever get — know why? Because X-FACTOR is mostly trash, that's why. From its very inception, the series has been nothing more than pure hype. You took a very confused and mixed-up character (Scott) from the X-Men and put him a very dreadful and shameful mess, one that shouldn't have been done in the first place — you should have let Jean Grey rest in peace. As a result, the X-MEN stories have become counter plots to the X-FACTOR stories; Rachel Summers suddenly disappeared, and Madelyne Pryor-Summers was turned into target practice for the Marauders.

When Louise Simonson took over, I thought that things would settle down. Boy, was I wrong. The "Mutant Massacre" crossovers were preposterous; all that carnage and X-Factor didn't even get to meet the X-Men! The soap opera plots became worse. In #26, Jean asks Scott an incredibly stupid question: "Scott ... about Maddie, did you love her?" Scott gives his usual boring story-of-my-life reply, and all that takes place while transporting injured people to a hospital! The "Fall of the Mutants" further reaffirmed X-FACTOR's fatal flaw: it has lots of slam-bang action and good art but it has very little substance.

The characterizations have also become most unreal. Bobby Drake, after being empowered more than ever before degenerated into an immature brat worthy of Roberto DaCosta. Hank McCoy was transformed into a good-looking hunk for a change, and eventually became a degraded, dim-witted buffoon. Warren was a washed-up character before; now, as Death,

he's a powerful washed-up character. Scott is still a jerk (some things never change), but his actions have been inappropriate. In his T.V. speech, he said, "The good among us must work together." Well, why didn't he consult with the X-Men about the things that have been happening? Why didn't he tell them about Jean's resurrection? They have a right to know. Didn't Scott realize the negative effect their campaign would have on mutants? Didn't he take into account Maddie's feelings when he left her? He must really be dumber than I thought.

And Jean — poor, pathetic Jean Grey. This resurrected Marvel Girl seems so unlike the one who appeared before X-MEN #101. "Storm was my friend," she muses in #27. Well, why didn't she inform her friend that she was alive? But what takes the cake was her outburst about Maddie in #29: "Scott, why are you listening to that, junk . . . why didn't she contact you ... she's such a hypocrite, she makes me sick!" Well, Jean Grey makes me sick. How dare she judge Madelyne, someone whom she's never met, without confirming the facts first. Besides, why did it take her all this time to reveal to her parents that she never died? Now who's the real hypocrite? Going further, she tells Scott that "She's not worth rulning your life for ... I think she's a monster herself, or maybe just a jerk . . . or maybe she's crazy." Utter lunacy — Jean is the jerk, and for that she deserves to be with Scott. Never have I seen two jerks who completely deserved each other more than these two. Jean's outright hatred for Maddie shows us what Jean is made of. No other Marvel super hero has spoken so cruelly about another character. She never even tries to find out about the agony that Maddie underwent, she just out and out condemns her. Is this the kind of example that we're supposed to follow? Sorry, but I'm not that stupid - I'm ditching this book. The only thing that took me this long was that I liked the kids a lot - but since they're getting their own limited series, I'll watch for that one instead.

Lawrence Teodoro Philippines

See what we mean? Next

Dear X-Changes,

I've kept quiet for as long as I could about this thing between Scott and Jean, but can no longer do so.

What is the problem here? I can't believe you guys could do this to Madelyne. Scott and Madelyne are married and were happy. Scott put his feelings for Jean to rest in the X-MEN and out of nowhere he's all hot and bothered to leave his son and wife just because she's back? How callous. I know I wouldn't want my wife to leave me because her first love was back, and I doubt you would want your husband to leave you if his first love wanted him. There's more involved than that — the commitment and love between them.

I shudder at what kind of message you're giving your readers, many of whom are children. It makes me feel worse to see how many want Scott to dump Madelyne for Jean. Is this what our society and comics have come to?

Scott needs to sit down and evaluate what is meant by 'I thee wed', commitment, love,

You need to resolve this soon. Scott and Madelyne and son deserve their happiness. I believe they belong together. Jean's young; she'll find somebody else.

As characters I love Scott and Madelyne, and as I've said, they deserve each other.

I've been a little harsh, but I believe it is necessary and I believe you can see why. Marriage isn't a joke, nor is it to be takenlightly. Madelyne's still alive, she and Scott are still married. Teach and show readers how love conquers throughout all tribulations — not how easy it is to throw away... please?

Marvelites for Madelyne unite.

PFC Michael P. Villwock 565 Med Co. Fr. Polk, LA 71459

Alan, Lawrence, Michael . . . all we can say is check out the ad below and stick around for a few more months. Trust us.



